Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

1.   (Currently Amended) A television signal receiving apparatus having an emergency alert function, comprising:

tuning means for tuning a channel frequency that provides emergency alert signals indicating an emergency event;

processing means for enabling an alert output responsive to said emergency alert signals; and

a single user input button for receiving tactile user inputs to control said emergency alert function, wherein said single user input button is the only tactile user input means integral with said apparatus that is capable of controlling said emergency alert function; wherein, responsive to a first depression of said single user interface button when said television signal receiver is in an "off" state and said emergency alert function is activated, said processing means perform steps comprising turning said television signal receiver to an "on" state and presenting information based on said emergency alert signals, and wherein, responsive to a second depression of said single user input button, said processing means cause said television signal receiving apparatus to be returned to an "off" state.

2.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said single user input button includes:

a plurality of different states; and

said apparatus performs one or more different operations responsive to each of said states based on user programming.

3.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising illuminating means for illuminating said single user input button based on a severity level of said emergency event.

4.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein said illuminating means illuminates said single user input button using:

   a first color if said severity level represents a first level;

   a second color if said severity level represents a second level; and

   a third color if said severity level represents a third level.

5.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein said first, second and third colors are each combined with a fourth color.

6.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein said illuminating means illuminates said single user input button using only said fourth color when said emergency alert function is not activated.

7.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein said illuminating means illuminates said single user input button using:

   two colors if said severity level represents a first level;

   three colors if said severity level represents a second level; and

   four colors if said severity level represents a third level.

8.   (Currently Amended) A method for operating a television signal receiving

apparatus having an emergency alert function, comprising:

        tuning a channel frequency that provides emergency alert signals indicating an

emergency event;

        providing an alert output responsive to said emergency alert signals; and

        receiving tactile user inputs to control said emergency alert function via a single

user input button, wherein said single user input button is the only tactile user input means

integral with said apparatus that is capable of controlling said emergency alert function; and

        responsive to said single user input button being depressed when said television

signal receiver is in an "off" state and said emergency alert function is activated, turning

said television signal receiver on and presenting information based on said emergency alert

signals, and responsive to a second depression of said single user input button, returning

said television signal receiving apparatus to an "off" state.

9.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said single user input

button includes a plurality of different states, and further comprised of:

        performing one or more different operations responsive to each of said states based

on user programming.

10.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, further comprised of illuminating

said single user input button based on a severity level of said emergency event.

11.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein said illuminating step

includes illuminating said single user input button using:

        a first color if said severity level represents a first level;

        a second color if said severity level represents a second level; and

        a third color if said severity level represents a third level.

12.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, further comprised of combining

each of said first, second and third colors with a fourth color.

13.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, further comprised of illuminating

said single user input button using only said fourth color when said emergency alert

function is not activated.

14.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein said illuminating step

includes illuminating said single user input button using:

        two colors if said severity level represents a first level;

        three colors if said severity level represents a second level; and

        four colors if said severity level represents a third level.

15.   (Currently Amended) A television signal receiver having an emergency alert
function, comprising:

      a tuner operative to tune a channel frequency that provides emergency alert signals
indicating an emergency event;

      a processor operative to enable an alert output responsive to said emergency alert
signals; and

      a single user input button for receiving tactile user inputs to control said emergency
alert function, wherein said single user input button is the only tactile user input element
integral with said television signal receiver that is capable of controlling said emergency
alert function;

      wherein, responsive to a first depression of said single user interface button when
said television signal receiver is in an "off" state and said emergency alert function is
activated, said processor performs steps comprising turning said television signal receiver
to an "on" state and presenting information based on said emergency alert signals, and
wherein, responsive to a second depression of said single user input button, said processing
means cause said television signal receiving apparatus to be returned to an "off" state.

16.   (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 15, wherein said
single user input button includes:

      a plurality of different states; and

      said television signal receiver performs one or more different operations responsive
to each of said states based on user programming.

17.   (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 15, further
comprising a light operative to illuminate said single user input button based on a severity
level of said emergency event.

18. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 17, wherein said light illuminates said single user input button using:

  a first color if said severity level represents a first level;

  a second color if said severity level represents a second level; and

  a third color if said severity level represents a third level.

19. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 18, wherein said first, second and third colors are each combined with a fourth color.

20. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 19, wherein said light (31) illuminates said single user input button using only said fourth color when said emergency alert function is not activated.

21. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 17, wherein said light illuminates said single user input button using:

  two colors if said severity level represents a first level;

  three colors if said severity level represents a second level; and

  four colors if said severity level represents a third level.